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61513 / 84840




PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/774,657 Confirmation No.: 8810  
Applicant: Gary R. Bledsoe  
Filed: February 5, 2004  
Attorney Docket No.: 61513 / 84840  
For: MUSCLE POWERED DYNAMIC KNEE BRACE  
Group Art Unit: 3743

Commissioner for Patents  
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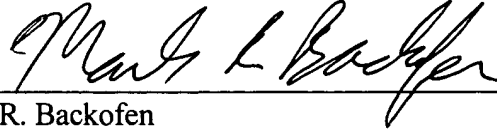
Sir:

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Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicant submits this statement. This submittal is made in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98 and §609 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure. The patents, publications and other information herein are listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08. Copies of the listed references are submitted herewith.

Applicant hereby expressly reserves the right to swear behind the effective dates of any of the above patents and other publications and to question the relevance and materiality of the Patents and Publications listed herein, in whole, in part, or in combination, subsequent to filing this Information Disclosure Statement.

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Mark R. Backofen  
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Date: May 27, 2004

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/774,657
Filing Date	February 5, 2004
First Named Inventor	Gary R. Bledsoe
Art Unit	3743
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	61513 / 84840

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- 1,381,290	06-14-1921	Diadul, Jr.	
		US- 3,902,482	09-02-1975	Taylor	
		US- 4,256,097	03-17-1981	Willis	
		US- 4,463,751	08-07-1984	Bledsoe	
		US- 4,817,588	04-04-1989	Bledsoe	
		US- 4,856,501	08-15-1989	Castillo et al.	
		US- 4,881,532	11-21-1989	Borig et al.	
		US- 4,955,369	09-11-1990	Bledsoe et al.	
		US- 5,056,509	10-15-1991	Swearington	
		US- 5,131,385	07-21-1992	Kuehnegger et al.	
		US- 5,277,698	01-11-1994	Taylor	
		US- 5,302,169	04-12-1994	Taylor	
		US- 5,400,806	03-28-1995	Taylor	
		US- 5,662,596	09-02-1997	Young	
		US- 5,766,140	06-16-1998	Tillinghast, III et	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		DE 357243	08-21-1922	Grabowski		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		DE 846895	08-18-1952	Willen et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
		DE 2239382	02-21-1974	Greissinger		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		GB 2136294 A	09-19-1984	Oakley		<input type="checkbox"/>
		GB 2163352 A	02-26-1986	Young et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>

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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
		Application Number	10/774,657
		Filing Date	February 5, 2004
		First Named Inventor	Gary R. Bledsoe
		Art Unit	3743
		Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet 2	of 2	Attorney Docket Number	61513 / 84840

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	1	"Strength, Stiffness, and Weight," Bledsoe Brace Systems Educational Series CP030004_A (publication date unknown), pp. 1-2	
	2	BLEDSON, GARY R., "Dynamic Bracing and It's Effect on the Knee," Bledsoe Brace Systems Educational Series CP030014_A (publication date unknown), pp. 1-7	
	3	"Using Functional Braces Postoperatively," Bledsoe Brace Systems Educational Series CP030005_A, p. 1	
	4	"Functional Brace Principles," Bledsoe Brace Systems Educational Series CP030001_A	
	5	KOMISTEK, RICHARD D. et al., "An In Vitro Analysis of the Effectiveness of the Osteoarthritic Knee Brace During Heel Strike of Gait," 1999, 12 pages, vol. 14, no. 6, (cont'd)	
		Journal of Arthroplasty (printed from Bledsoe Brace Systems web site: <a href="http://bledsoebrace.com/studies/rose.htm">http://bledsoebrace.com/studies/rose.htm</a> )	
	6	HEWETT, TIMOTHY E. et al., "Decrease in Knee Joint Pain and Increase in Function in Patients With Medial Compartment Arthrosis: A Perspective Analysis of Valgus (cont'd)	
		Bracing," 1998, 16 pages, vol. 21, no. 2, Orthopedics (printed from Bledsoe Brace Systems web site: <a href="http://bledsoebrace.com/studies/cinci.htm">http://bledsoebrace.com/studies/cinci.htm</a> )	
	7	Bledsoe Thruster Knee Brace brochure (CP010156) and Application Instructions (CP00020138), 4 pages, November 1995	
	8	Bledsoe Aligner Brace brochure and Application Instructions (CP020305, Rev. B), 5 pages, March 2001	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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